

SPIDER-MAN

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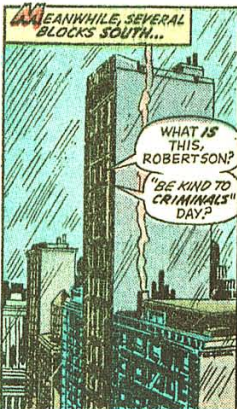
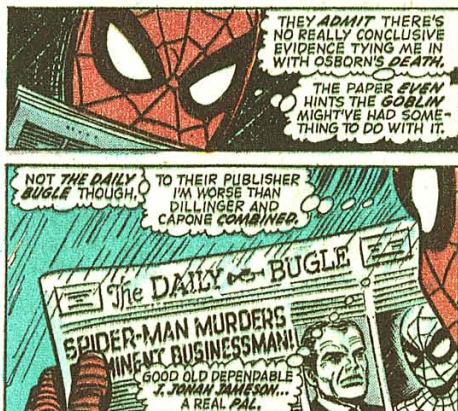
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



JAMESON!
THAT THING--
WHAT IS
IT?

IT'S--
MY
SON!

THE MARK OF THE
MAN-WOLF!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



Live and work in "ManCountry"

We'll train you in your spare time — for an exciting outdoor career



These patches represent outdoor careers for which the National School trains you; not the official patches of any State, Federal or private conservation service.

Thousands of jobs will be opening up in wildlife management, parks and outdoor recreation, forestry, etc.

Why spend the best days of your life punching a time clock in an office, store or factory — when you may be able to qualify for one of the thousands of new jobs that are coming up in the great outdoors because of concern for conservation and ecology.

Imagine getting paid for work you'll enjoy

Don't settle for only occasional hunting, fishing and boating trips. Live and work right next to nature — in real man country — all year round. Every year there are new openings in State and National Parks, the forest industry, game refuges and preserves, private hunting and fishing clubs and recreational facilities.

Here's how you can qualify... Start now!

The National School of Conservation will help you prepare at home, in your spare time, for an exciting outdoor opportunity. This accredited train-at-home program has been created by experts in the field of conservation. These men have years of on-the-job experience... and they share it with you, through every step of your training. You can even keep your present job as you learn at home... working at your own pace. National School of Conservation is America's oldest established and accredited home-study conservation school; so you know you're in capable hands. When you graduate, National School will assist you in contacting public and private conservation organizations and help explore available job openings.

Good Pay... Job Security... Low Living Costs — a great combination! You can earn a good living, with advancement possibilities and raises based on seniority and performance. As a bonus, some jobs include uniform allowances, hospital insurance, pension plans, vacations with pay... and your paychecks come through regularly — good times or bad.

You only live once... make it a life of adventure

The man who wears the insignia of a forestry, conservation, wildlife or park agency is a man of action called upon to rescue people in danger... to enforce our laws and protect our wildlife... to direct citizens in time of emergencies... even lead fire fighting crews. What's more, the conservationist has the satisfaction of knowing that he is serving his country... safeguarding her forests, parks, ranges and wildlife. Future generations will be grateful to him for preserving the natural beauty of our American heritage.

Send for Free Career Guidebook

There are few careers that offer a man such exciting challenges... such rich rewards. But a career like this can be yours — even with no experience or college if you train now. Get all the facts. Mail the coupon for your Free Career Guidebook. There's no obligation and no salesman will call on you. National School of Conservation, 1129-20th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

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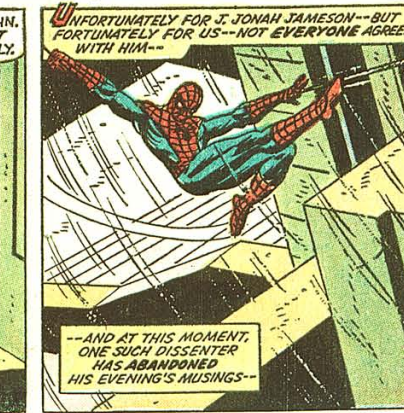
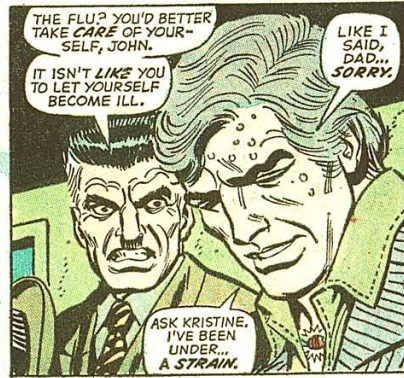
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"Your course afforded me the position as Ranger-in-Charge of an area, and my present position." — David E. Heck, Maryland.

"While taking this course, I was with Champion Paper Company... now I am the owner of Bryson Pulpwood Yard, and doing my own forestry work." — Mack Howell, North Carolina.







EVEN HER.

I DON'T KNOW THAT GIRL--BUT MAYBE SHE KNOWS ME.

AND MAYBE SHE'S THINKING--"THAT POOR PETER PARKER, HIS GIRL AND HIS ROOMMATE'S FATHER BOTH IN THE SAME DAY!"

YOU DON'T KNOW, SISTER.

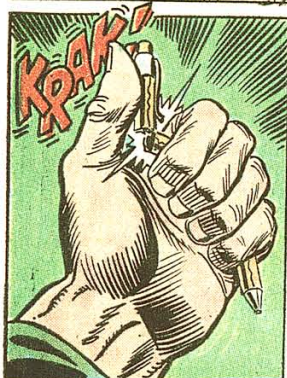


YOU JUST--DON'T--KNOW!



THERE ARE MOMENTS WHEN THE TENSION BECOMES TOO GREAT.

MOMENTS WHEN THE BEST OF US MAY--BEND JUST A LITTLE.



KRAK!



NO USE... SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER.

THE MEMORY'S STILL TOO FRESH...HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO MAKE PEACE WITH MYSELF.

ANOTHER MINUTE IN THERE--IN HERE--AND I'LL GO BUGABOO PERMANENTLY!

PETEY...?



HEY, PETEY!

DON'T RUSH OFF, TIGER--MARY JANE WANTS TO HAVE A WORD WITH YOU.

NOT NOW, M.J. I'M A LITTLE TENSE.

SO WHO ISN'T?



YOU'VE GOT A RIGHT TO BE TENSE, PETE... BUT NOT TO PLAY HERMIT.

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP UP THIS ORSTRICH ACT?

I WISH I KNEW.



RIGHT NOW--IT'S ALL TOO CLOSE TO ME.

I'VE GOT TO PULL MY HEAD AROUND--ADJUST--IF I CAN.



"HEY, HANDSOME--DON'T BE A DOWN."

YOU'VE GOT TO PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER.

WHY? WHAT DIFFERENCE IS IT TO YOU, MARY JANE?

YOU'RE HARRY OSBORN'S GIRL, NOT MINE.



I MEAN, I APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST, BUT--

MY INTEREST? NOW LOOK, PETE. IT ISN'T JUST--

HEY, PARKER!

OH, HELLO, FLASH.



SAY, WHERE'S YOUR ROOMMATE THESE DAYS, PARKER?

WORDS OUT THAT HARRY'S CRAWLED INTO A HOLE AND PULLED IT IN AFTER HIM.

IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS, OF COURSE, BUT--

RIGHT THE FIRST TIME, FLASH.

IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.



YOU AND ALL THE REST OF THE CLOWNS SEEM TO THINK WE'RE FREAKS-- JUST BECAUSE WE WANT A LITTLE QUIET IN OUR LIVES--A LITTLE SILENCE.

BUG OFF, BOTH OF YOU! I HAVE HEAD UP TO HERE!

SORRY I ASKED.



LATER THIS SAME EVENING, IN A BROWNSTONE OVERLOOKING THE HUDSON RIVER, A DOOR OPENS, RELEASING A SLIVER OF YELLOW LIGHT--

--AND THE STUNTLING FORM OF A YOUNG MAN.



NOTHING-- I CAN DO--

IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN! MY SPECIAL OUTFIT-- DOESN'T STOP IT-- LIKE IT'S SUPPOSED TO--

I'M CHANGING-- CHANGING!

AAARRR

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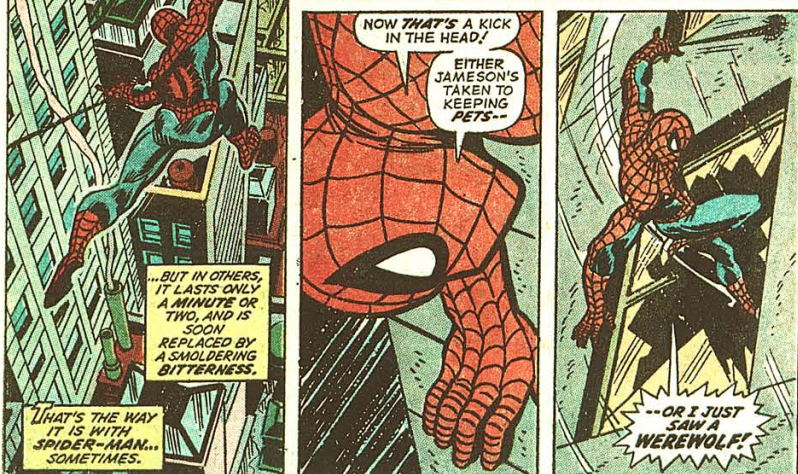
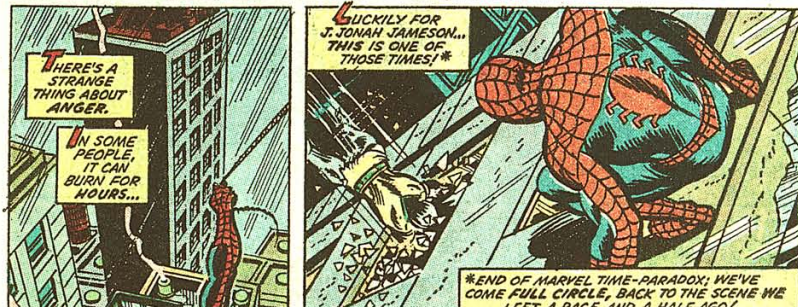
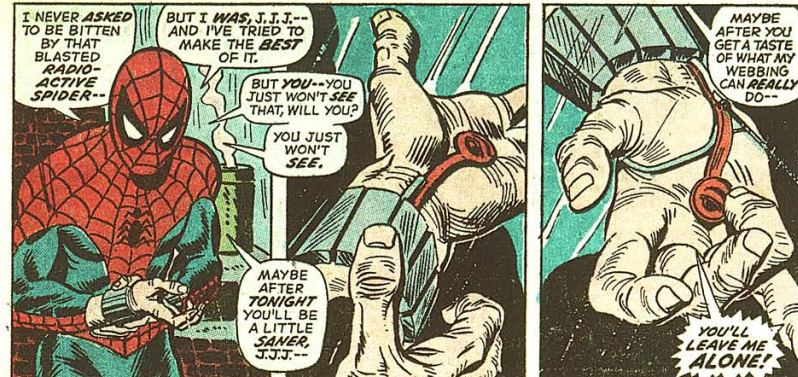
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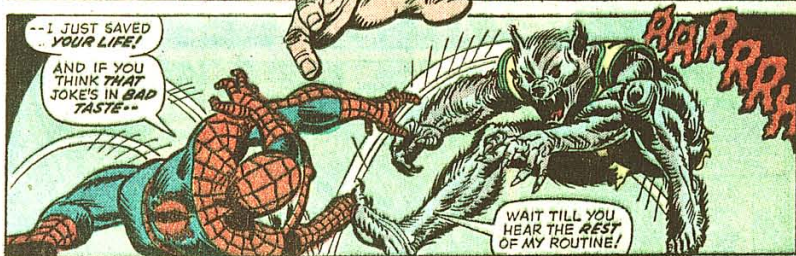
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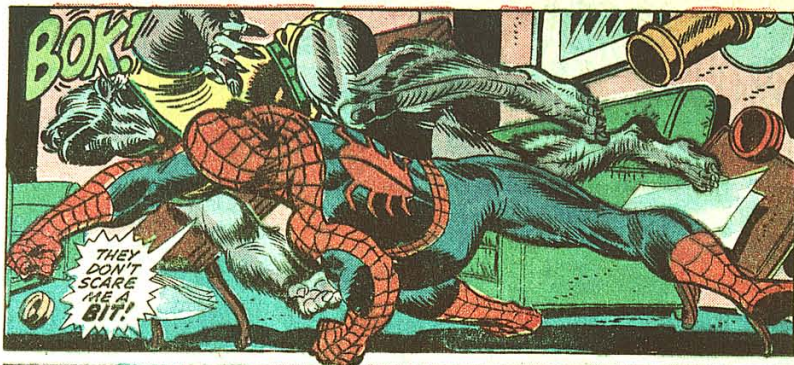
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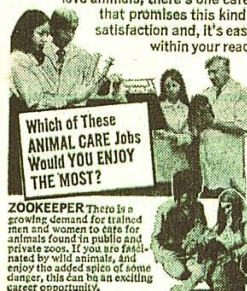
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ITEM! You begged for it — you pleaded for it — at times, you even demanded it! And now, at last, it's back — bigger and better than ever! That's SAVAGE TALES, perhaps the most clamorously requested giant-size magazine of all! And, when mighty Marvel finally brings back a title (after more than two long years!), leave it to us to do it right! Feature attraction, of course, is exactly what you hoped it would be: an all-new, all-great feature-length CONAN extravaganza by Messrs. ROY THOMAS and BARRY SMITH, under whom our swash-buckling Cimmarian rose to stratospheric heights in the dizzy world of comic-books — now even greater than before in illustrated magazine form! And that's just for starters! Verily, a host of hell-con surprises await thee as well, in the pages of SAVAGE TALES #2 — only 75¢ for 76 big pages — now on sale at last, wherever magazines are displayed!

ITEM! But, don't get that little happen-ing mixed up with still another epochal event from Marvel — as summer of 1973 heralds the return of our ever-lovin', much-missed *Annals* (or *Specials*, or whatever we called 'em last time around). There'll be no less than three over-sized opuses winging your way in the long hot weeks to come, as your Bullpen brain-trust re-presents some of the most magnificent adventures ever

of SPIDER-MAN, FANTASTIC FOUR, and CONAN THE BARBARIAN! All yours for just 35¢, true believer, so get 'em while they last — which won't be long!

ITEM! Now, we could go on to tell you that DRACULA LIVES #3 is also on sale right now, starring the Lord of the Living Dead in a trio of timeless sagas — or that TALES OF THE ZOMBIE #2 is likewise looming in your path, as the Man Without A Soul rises from the grave once more. But, our awesome ads else where in our frantic mags will take care of that little matter. What we wanted to mention next is a forthcoming publication from mixed-up Marvel that might sound a wee bit like a reprint — but take it from us, it ain't! That's the wild, way-out mish-mash we call CRAZY Magazine, a brand new 404 sock-it-to-'em sensation that's destined to take the waiting world by storm! It features perfidious parody, scathing satire, and laugh-a-minute lampoons that'll hit you where you live — and kick the Establishment where it sits down! With art and scripts by some of the world's greatest wits — including a special surprise or two you'll have to see to believe! That's CRAZY Magazine #1! Watch for it on magazine racks everywhere, just about any day now. As Honest Irv Forbush (or somebody) once ad-libbed: "Nuff said!"

ITEM! And here's a final scoop just pulled

off by the batty Bullpen! We've just received one of our most popular titles of the sizzlin' 60's — a little thing called STRANGE TALES — and used it to usher in the eerie adventures of perhaps the most unique superhero ever! We call him — BROTHER VOODOO! You'll call him — sensational! That's STRANGE TALES #169, now on sale — and well worth the five-year wait!

Now, if we may, we'd like to get serious for just a moment. This is the Bulletin item we hoped we'd never have to write.

Bill Everett, creator of the Sub-Mariner and a host of other great comic-book heroes, passed away on February 27th last. Bill was known and loved by just about everyone in the comics world, and was respected as few of his peers are respected.

Rather than launch any lengthy eulogies here — something Bill wouldn't have wanted, in any case — we'd prefer simply to refer you to the pages of SUB-MARINER #65, now on sale, in which a final and well-earned tribute is paid to this most important of Marvel talents . . . this most kindly, most generous of men.

We sorta think that's where Bill would most have liked to be remembered.

THE SPIDER'S WEB

SPECIAL BULLPEN NOTE:

Well, we expected an avalanche of mail on SPIDER-MAN #121, the issue which featured the tragic death of Gwendolyn Stacy . . . but we were wrong. We got at least two avalanches. And letters are still pouring in literally by the hundreds. Herewith, a random sampling of the earliest arrivals, followed, of course, by our comments:

Spideophiles

Webhead's latest issue, #121 to be exact, was at first, in my mind, a rather dubious commodity. How many times have I seen on the cover and on the Bullpen Bulletin pages, "Turning Point," "Most Important Issue," "It's A Biggie," and the like? So I disregarded these ominous omens. Boy, was I a dummy!

Peter Aicichi
Corona, N.Y. 11368

Dear Gerry,

I have just finished SPIDER-MAN #121 and I am unable to contain my congratulations and anger. O.K., so I've read every SPIDER-MAN mag and I've seen Spidey go from bad to worse and back to bad again. But that's the name of the game for poor old Peter Parker. O.K., so Stan, and now you, Gerry, can't find any happiness for our hero. But why pick on Gwen?? When Gwen was first introduced into Peter's life, it appeared as if Marvel did have a heart, but now I have my doubts. My congratulations are in order because no SPIDER-MAN mag has ever struck me as did #121. My anger, well, that's obvious. All I can ask is that you, Mr. Conway, create one HECKUVA story and return the only good thing that Marvel has ever given to that most knocked down, sorrow-ridden, and guilt-complexed character. If not, well, my college guys will just have to burn you in effigy. Mr. Conway — and you wouldn't like that now, would you?

Steven Pearlman, Stevens Inst. of Technology
Hoboken, N.J.

Gentlemen,

How much more agony must Parker live through? This issue, #121, has a certain finality to it. I know that Gwen is really dead. So I have the right to cry. I have the right to mourn her death. I have the right to know that I will not feel absurd three issues later when she is suddenly brought back to life by some super-alien life ray. The rest of "The Night Gwen Stacy Died" completes one of the most heart-rending, magnificently scripted and laid out sagas to date.

After a dramatic, typical Spidey rescue . . . BLAM! It hits you! "I saved you, honey . . . I saved you!" He didn't save her. Fantasy? Reality? Where is the dividing line?

Gentlemen, you have succeeded in placing the comic book, SPIDER-MAN, onto a newly defined aesthetic plane of realism. But Lord, you have also succeeded in touching my soul.

Salvatore M. Trélio
Dept. of Anthropology, S.U.N.Y.
Buffalo, N.Y.

Dear Roy, Gerry, Gil, et al,

I only hope you make Gwen Stacy's death as big a turning point as it deserves to be. I'm expecting some totally new directions, and if you fail to do so, then Ms. Stacy's death will have been in vain, so to speak.

Robert Lowrey
(no address given)

Gentlemen,

As you said, SPIDER-MAN #121 was a shocker. Frankly, I wonder what kind of home life you people must have, or had as children.

Donald Shimmers
Wauwatosa, Wis.

To whoever had the idea of killing off Gwen Stacy, you rattlesnake, you buzzard, you large red insect, you worm, you cockroach, you lizard, you skunk, you tapeworm in the digestive system of humanity: Why is it when a superhero and his girl finally seem to be getting it together, you kill off the girl? May you lose every tooth in your head but one, and in that one may you have a toothache; may someone put arsenic in your midnight cocoa; may you be struck down by a

spirit of justice and be reincarnated as an amoeba!

RFO Sergio J. Andrade
Roselle, N.J.

Dear Marvel Bullpen,

Realism has always been a significant ingredient in Marvel's success, and, unfortunately, a reality of life is the certainty of eventual death. But as sorry as I am about Gwen's demise, I am anxiously awaiting the introduction of new characters in SPIDER-MAN and Peter Parker's life. A life which will continue in the Marvel tradition, as it has for over ten years.

Dave Carrothers
Oakland, Calif.

Marvel,

How DARE you kill Gwendolyn Stacy? You are a pack of scoundrels, mercenary sadists. I am no longer a True Believer.

J.M. Black
Alamedam, Calif.

Dear Bullpen Gang-sters,

You guys should change your names to the Marvel Soap Opera & Murder Co. Inc. Just like Spidey, you're giving my uicers ulcers!

Kent Raleigh Jr.
Phoenix, Ariz.

And that's how it went, folks. Schizoid! Utterly schizoid!

Almost everyone was deeply moved and saddened by Gwen's death. But even those who wrote some of the most sensitive, sorrow-stricken, "how could you?" filled missives had to conclude (are you ready?) that we did the right thing.

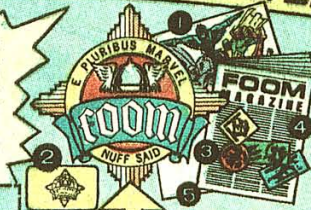
Of course, not everyone felt that way. Some promised never to buy a SPIDEY mag again. Others called us "murderers," "fiends," "assassins," and a slew of unprintable epithets. And yet . . . the number of Marvelites who gave us a sort of quavering nod of approval frankly amazed us.

Next issue: the full story behind-the-story (subtitled, "So NOW I Know Whom to Blame!"), plus your comments on SPIDEY #122, in which the Green Goblin not only bit the dust, but made a seven-course dinner of it. Tamam shud!

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